

abortionist completes the delivery of a now dead baby. If the head slips out at any time the abortionist must stop the procedure. This procedure defines life by inches of a baby's head.

Many members of the medical community, myself included, find the practice of partial-birth abortion to be appalling. In fact, this ban has been endorsed by the American Medical Association. America's doctors recognize the uselessness and danger of this procedure, not only to the baby, but to the mother as well.

This is a very emotional issue and every Member of the House who voted for this important legislation truly considered whom we are trying to protect. The most innocent members of our society are under attack. If we don't protect them, who will?

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for voting to protecting our unborn children. We must stand together and recognize the damage inflicted on America when we treat life as a privilege and not a right. I commend the members of both Houses who have worked so hard to bring this legislation to a vote.

PUT THE BRAKES ON FATALITIES DAY

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to call attention to the leading cause of death in the United States for people ages 6 to 25, traffic accidents all attention to an important step we can take to combat this disturbing trend.

The roadways of this nation have become a remarkably dangerous and costly place. A few stunning statistics on roadway accidents clearly show just how dangerous and costly they have become. The number of fatalities from traffic crashes increased in 2002 to almost 43,000 deaths—a death every 13 minutes—a rate not seen since 1990. Overall, almost 3,000,000 people are injured every year in traffic crashes and the financial cost of these deaths and injuries, beyond the pain and suffering they cause to victims and their families, is over \$230 billion per year.

Most surprising of all, though, is that there are simple ways to improve the safety of our roads. Most traffic accidents can be prevented with common sense from drivers, such as wearing seatbelts, and cost-effective improvements to roadways. With these simple solutions in mind, I encourage my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 388, expressing the sense that Congress and the President should establish "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" to encourage safer driving and safer roadways.

"Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day," which is widely recognized on October 10th, is already supported by 40 national engineering, highway, and safety organizations, and several states have already organized very successful "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" campaigns.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to imagine one single day with zero traffic fatalities; a day that would save well over 100 American lives. With just a few simple steps, we can make American roads safer, and we can help "put the brakes on fatalities."

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 3, PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express regret that the majority has chosen to play partisan politics and exclude a health exception in this Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003 conference report that is before us today.

In years past when this bill has come before the floor of the House, its major flaw has been the absence of a health exception for the mother. When this bill was originally considered in the House in June, I supported a motion to recommit that would have sent the bill back to Committee with directions to add that exception. Without that component, this bill is unconstitutional. In 2000, the Supreme Court found in *Carhart v. Stenberg* that Nebraska's partial-birth abortion ban was unconstitutional by a 5–4 decision. The grounds for that decision included the fact that there was no constitutionally required exception to protect women's health. I am disappointed that the authors of this bill made no effort to remedy this flaw.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DUANE VANDENBUSCHE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress today to honor a very accomplished citizen from my district. Duane Vandenburg of Gunnison, Colorado has guided the track and cross-country teams at Western State College to numerous national titles. Along the way, he has instilled many important values such as discipline and teamwork into his student athletes that have helped them mature into successful young men and women. For his remarkable success and his dedicated commitment to Colorado's youth, I am proud to recognize Duane here today.

Duane started his career at Western State College as a history professor in 1962 and began helping the track team a few years later by timing the athletes. From that humble beginning, Duane went on to become the program's head coach, and eventually one of the most successful coaches in the country. Under his tutelage, the women's cross-country team claimed one NAIA championship and three NCAA Division II National Titles. The men's squad has been equally impressive, winning one NAIA title and five NCAA national championships.

Duane's remarkable accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. In addition to his team titles, Duane has been named National Coach of the Year in cross-country seven times. For his success and dedication to the sport, he will be inducted next spring into Michigan's Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, despite all of the praise and accolades that have been bestowed on him,

Duane Vandenburg has kept his head on the ground and his focus on his students. He is a true credit to his community and the educational institution he serves. I am truly privileged to have this opportunity to congratulate Duane on his accomplishments, thank him for his four decades of hard work with our young people, and to wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF MERVYN JONES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today in honor and remembrance of Mervyn Jones—devoted family man, respected businessman, and a friend to many in the community.

Mr. Jones and Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones were married in 1976 at Bethany Baptist Church. They have a son, Mervyn Jones II, who is now attending college at Hiram College. Mr. Jones worked renovating and rehabilitating homes in the community and had sold rental properties.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mervyn Jones—a loving man, a dedicated and adoring husband to his wife, a wonderful and warm father to his son, and a generous and caring man to his family and friends.

I extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Jones's beloved wife, Stephanie, and his child, Mervyn Jones II, and his brother, sisters, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Mervyn Jones will forever be missed.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHNNY CASH

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 2003

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H. Con. Res. 282, which pays tribute to the memory of legendary singer Johnny Cash, who was born in Kingsland, Arkansas.

Johnny Cash grew up on a 20-acre cotton farm in Northeast Arkansas. Listening to his mother's folk songs, hymns, and hearing the workers in the fields, or the nearby railroad yards nurtured his love for music. The plight of the workingman and downtrodden would remain a central theme to his music throughout his rise to become one of the most influential country singers of the 20th century.

His experiences of the dark side of life, through drugs, alcohol, bad luck, and poverty have been very popular. He used his songs, books, movies and television to grab the attention of the world.

Johnny Cash remained an Arkansan by heart throughout his entire career, never forgetting the importance of his faith, his family, and his roots. In 1969, he worked closely with Arkansas Governor Winthrop Rockefeller to show the nation that prisons were not a lost cause and living conditions must be improved. At the Governor's request he performed at Cummins Prison in Grady, Arkansas, to a live